



# *Traveler*

TRUSTWORTHY AUTONOMY

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**NASA - DoD - FAA**

# NASA

## Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate



### **Safe, Efficient Growth in Global Operations**

- Enable full NextGen and develop technologies to substantially reduce aircraft safety risks



### **Innovation in Commercial Supersonic Aircraft**

- Achieve a low-boom standard



### **Ultra-Efficient Commercial Vehicles**

- Pioneer technologies for big leaps in efficiency and environmental performance



### **Transition to Low-Carbon Propulsion**

- Characterize drop-in alternative fuels and pioneer low-carbon propulsion technology



### **Real-Time System-Wide Safety Assurance**

- Develop an integrated prototype of a real-time safety monitoring and assurance system



### **Assured Autonomy for Aviation Transformation**

- Develop high impact aviation autonomy applications

# Autonomy





# Autonomy

Autonomy



# Autonomy

## Autonomy

1. Self-directing freedom and especially moral independence. - *Websters*
2. Independence from the organism as a whole in the capacity of a part for growth, reactivity, or responsiveness. – *Medical Reference*

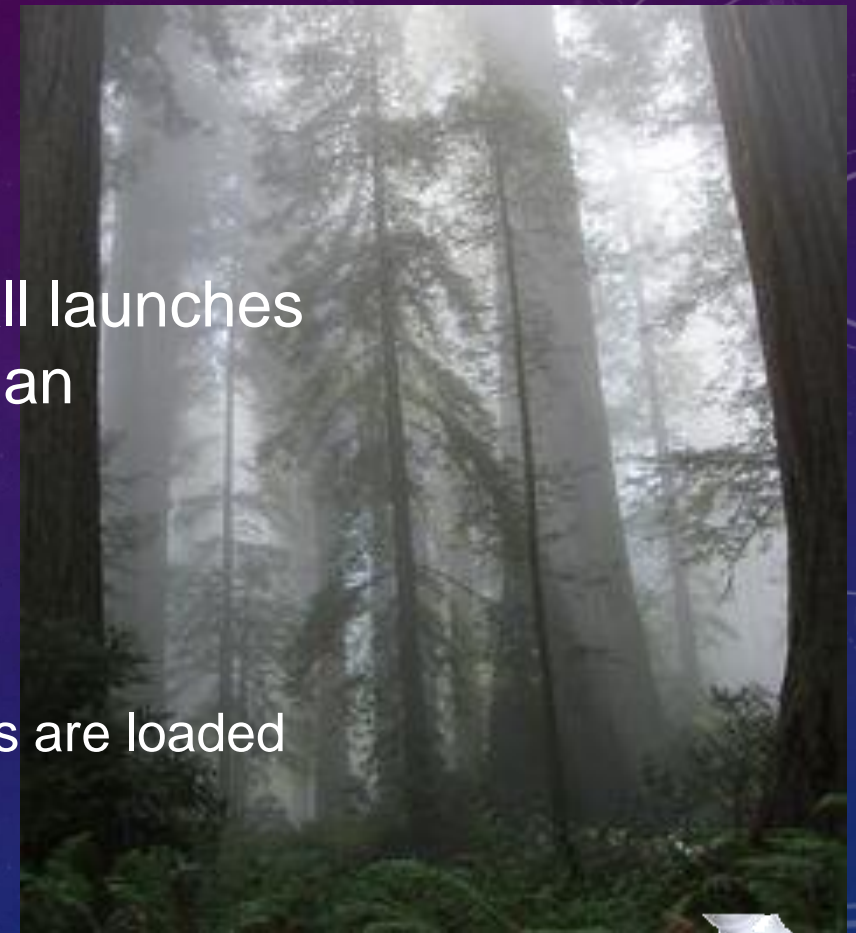
- **Self-Directing Freedom**
  - Independence from the organism as a whole
- **Moral Independence**
  - Reactivity
  - Responsiveness

# Vision

Imagine a day when a 911 emergency medical call launches a vehicle to the aid of an injured victim trapped in an inaccessible location in the wilderness.

The vehicle:

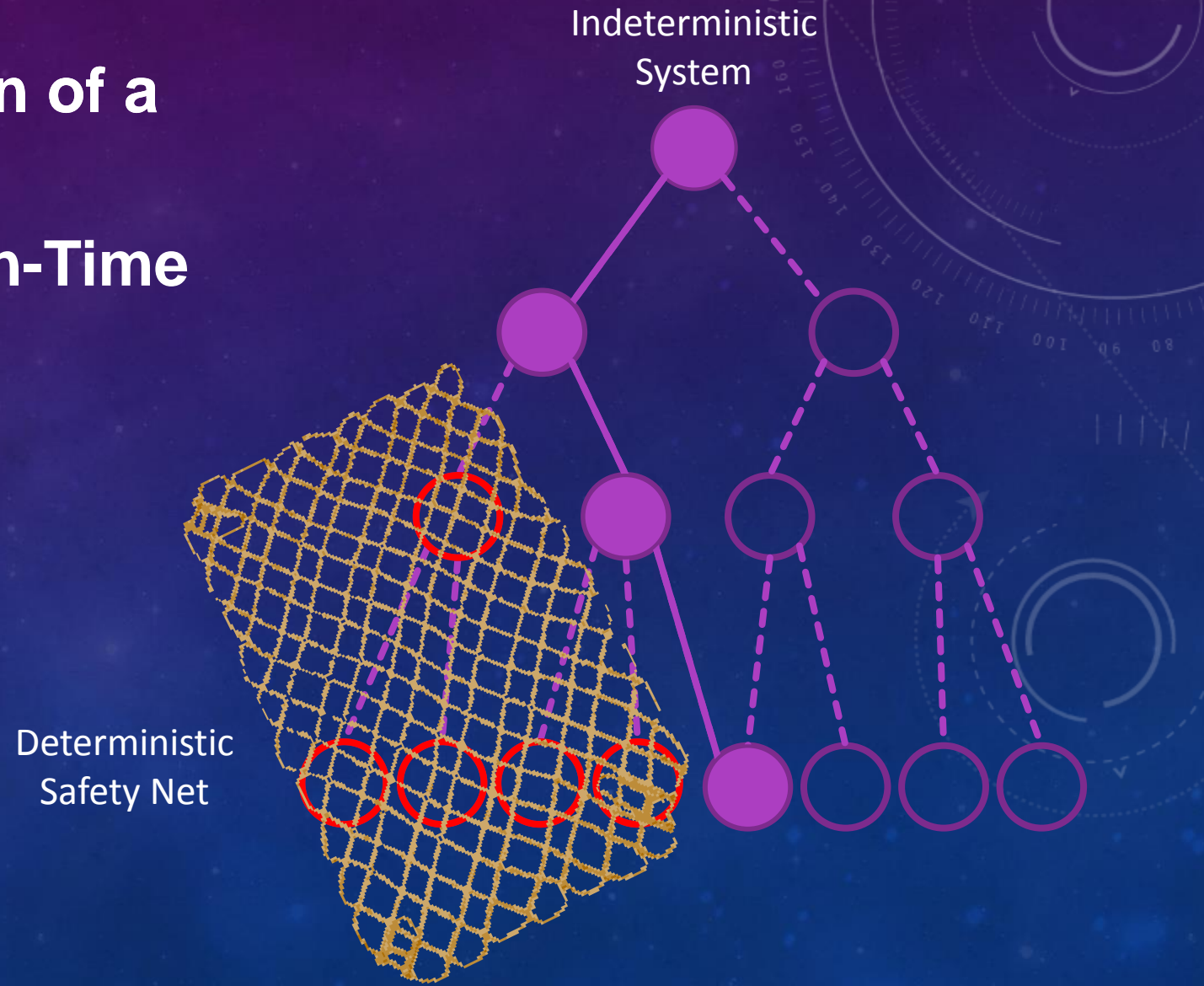
- Self-Plans
- Self-Files
- Self-Launches once needed medical supplies are loaded
- Travels Safely
- Coordinates its own refueling
- Finds the injured victim
- Lands delivering the supplies
- Launches and establishes communication between the victim and trained medical personnel





# The Challenge

- **Verification & Certification of a Complex System**
- **A Possible Solution – Run-Time Assurance (RTA)**



# Our Goals

Project Goals, Research Themes & Technical Challenges

- **Project Goals**

1. **Fly an Autonomous System Outside of Restricted Airspace**

- Make an airworthiness case (to NASA & FAA) for a COA
- Utilize appropriate test safety mitigations (Safety Pilot in Line-of-Sight)

2. **Fly a Portion of an Autonomous Mission without a Link or Safety Pilot for Mitigation**

- Make an airworthiness case based on human equivalency

- **Develop and Verify a Highly Autonomous System**

- 2 Themes

1. System-of-Systems Development & Integration for Comprehensive Flight Safety
2. Expand the Paradigm of Run-Time Assurance

- Technology Maturation – TRL 3 to 5

- Challenge: Certification & Airworthiness of Autonomy





# How We Will Achieve The Vision

- **A Software Framework**
  - Expandable Variable-Autonomy Architecture (**EVAA**)
  - A Federated Architecture
    - Safety Systems
      - 1
      - 2
      - 3...
    - Flight Executive
  - Software Structure & Techniques
- **Classical & Non-Classical Verification Methods**
- **Demonstration of the Technology**
  - Flight Demonstrations
  - Social Interaction



# Automatic Collision Avoidance Development Background

1980

## **AFTI/F-16**

Advanced Fighter Technology Integration



2000

## **ACAT/F-16**

Automated Collision Avoidance Technology



2010

## **ACAT/SUAV**

Small Unmanned Air Vehicle



2015

## **iGCAS/SR22**

Improved Collision Avoidance System





# Ground Collision Avoidance





**Nuisance Free**



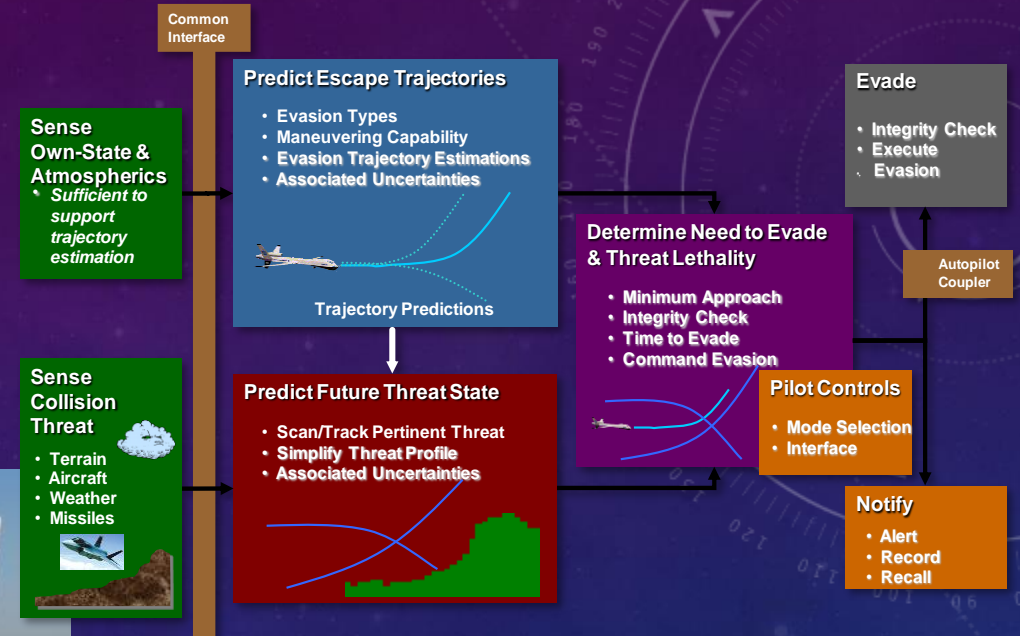
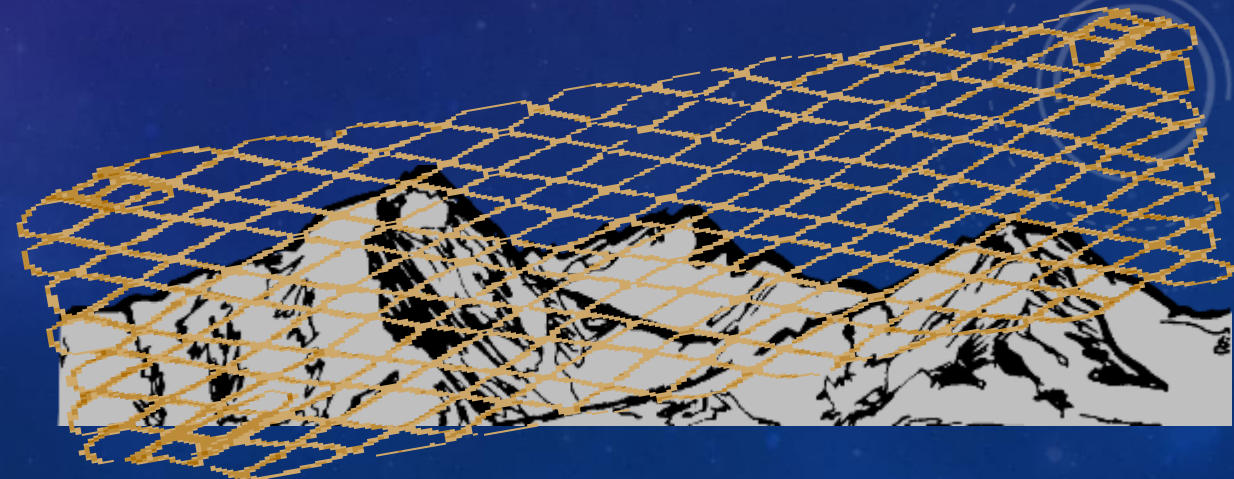
# Automatic Ground Collision Avoidance





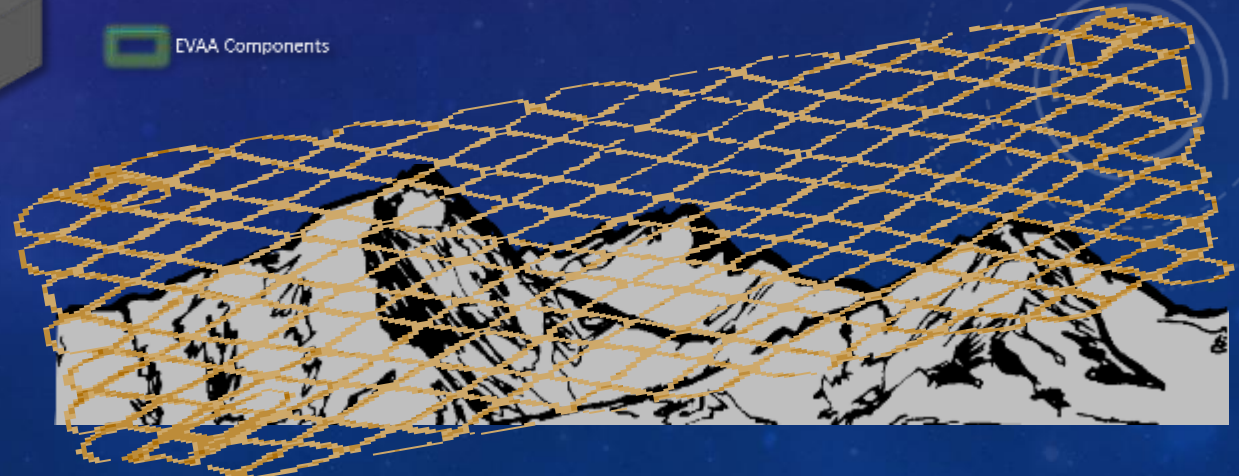
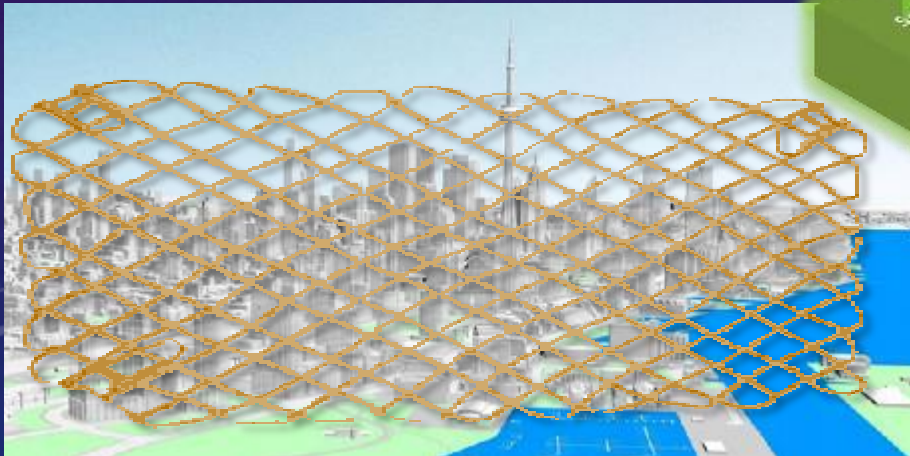
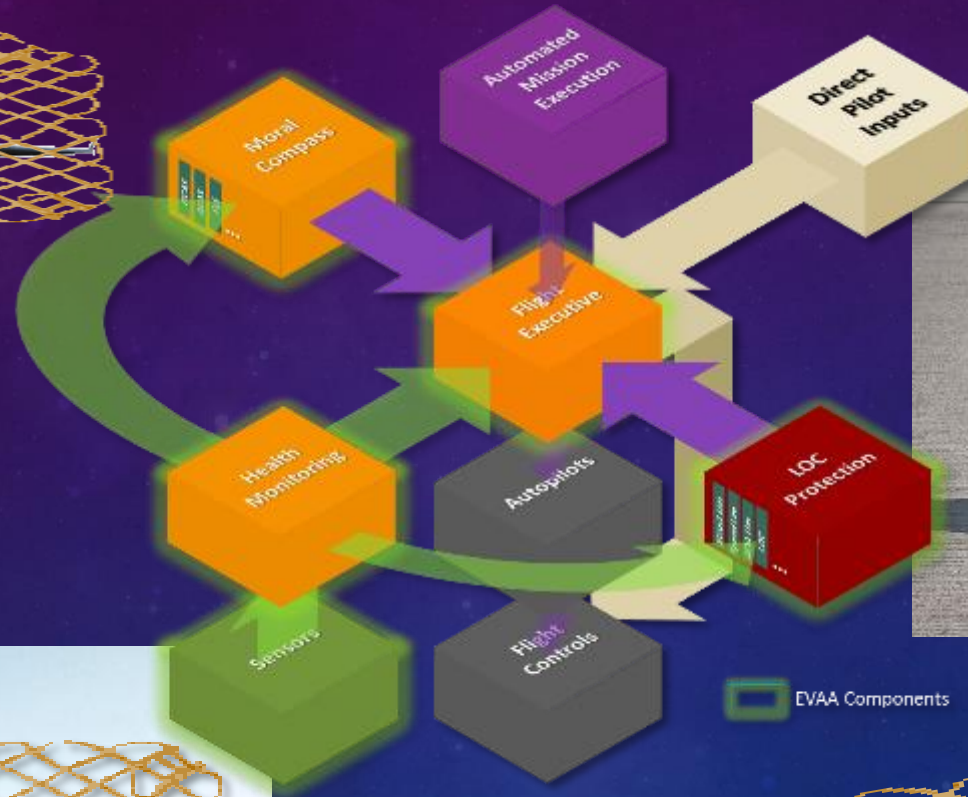


# Safety Systems





# Safety Systems



# EVA Core Principles

# 1. Modular Software Architecture

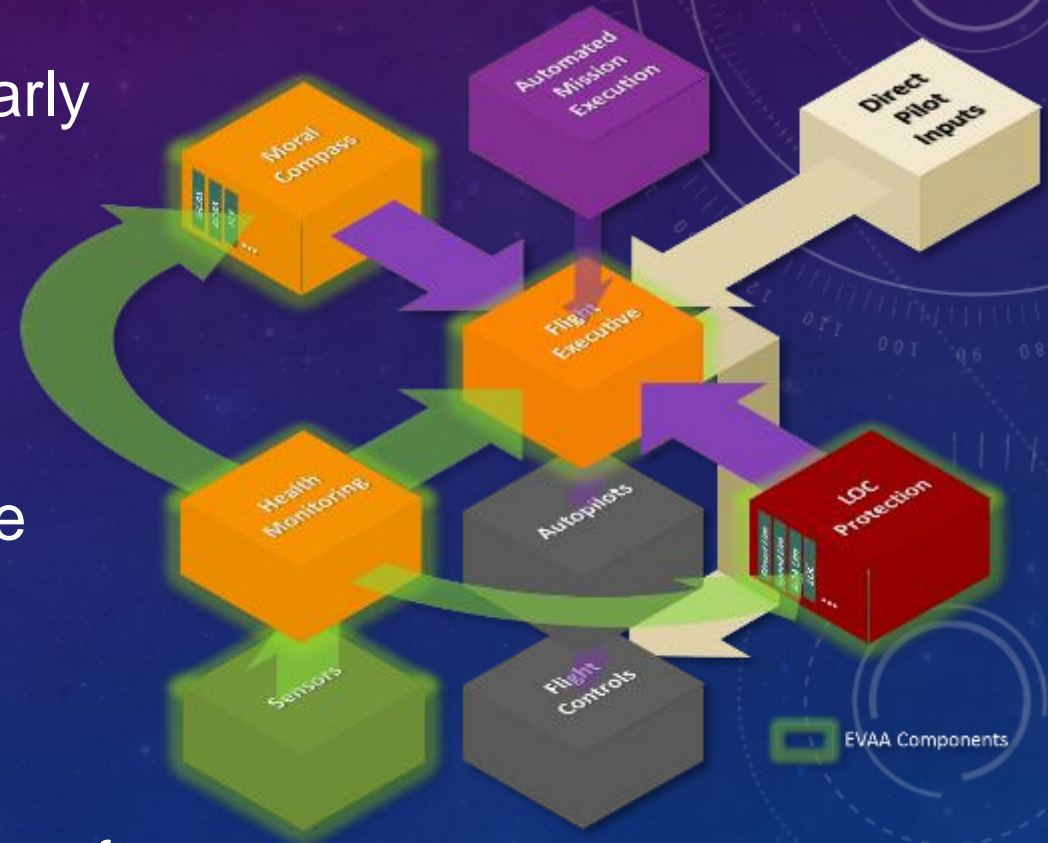
- Top down architecture hierarchy with clearly specified interfaces

## 2. Functionally Partitioned Modules

- Each module limited to a single safety function
- Software isolation of Vehicle performance modeling

### 3. Computational Agility

- Rapid assessment of vehicle situational hazards with quick and decisive mitigation of those hazards





# Demonstration of Technology

- **Autonomous Missions**

- **STEM Demo - early 2017**

- Science Technology Engineering & Math (STEM)
    - **Goal**
      - Flight Outside of Restricted Airspace
    - **System Requirements**
      - Flight Executive
      - Geo-Fence (a priori data)
      - Ground & Obstacle Avoidance (a priori data)
      - Forced Landing System (a priori data)
      - Basic Mission Planner
      - Test Safety Monitor

- **ERM Demo - early 2018**

- Emergency Response Mission (ERM)
    - **Goal**
      - Fly a Portion of the Autonomous Mission without a Link or Safety Pilot
    - **Additional System Requirements**
      - Separation Assurance & Air Collision Avoidance
      - Active Sensing of Obstacles



**CY16**

System Development & Test

**STEM  
Demo**

**CY17**

Ph. 2 Systems Development

**ERM  
Demo**



